Letter From The U.S.

Dear Compatriots,

It is now eight and a half years since Emancipation *was first put together by an enthusiastic group of anarchist teenagers. Some 69 issues later the original group is still in touch with many writers, photographers, graphic artists, and activists who have come and gone in the process of getting an ever-changing* Emancipation *to its readers.*

But where does 1987 find us as we we approach our 9th birthday? Several of us have left the region, two have left the country, unhappily, two have left their mortal form altogether, leaving us with pain and with beautiful memories.

Many of course, are working hard to maintain shelter and food for themselves, many are active in environmental and human rights work, anti-war effort, alternative education, feminism, child health care,the homeless, union work, animal rights, provocative music, roving anarchist workshops, and organic gardening. You name it, we're doing it. A result of their high purpose and abundance is that the focus has passed away from Emancipation *itself. We are in debt and are producing issues less often -- and then because of the persistence of one or two individuals.*

Now the collective has decided to either halt Emancipation *for a healthy and and indefinate period or to close it altogether.We feel it is the only fair way to treat our good friends who subscribe and/or help with distribution.We would like to hear from you on this and, depending on the reply, will probably put out a final regular issue.*

If you would like to keep your subscription alive, based on the possibility that certain members may produce and send you new materials as occasions arrive, fine.

If as a way of repaying you for any balance owed on your subscription, we can send you any back-issues, let us know.

But, if you feel that you have not received your money's worth, we will return whatever amount you feel is fair.

We are raising money to pay off our printer's debt by offering the very few available sets of all 69 issues of Emancipation *at 50 dollars a set.*

Anarchism is the clear expression of the best and most finely focussed aspects of the human character. It is the most practical and positive method of achieving justice and harmony within society we have so far devised, and this is a belief that we will carry honorably to our graves. We are not stopping the music; we've just switched to a new set of strings. May the way of Freedom always be open.

The *Emancipation* Collective
Box 840,
Washington DC USA

Volume 8, Issue 3, Number 63, July 1985 -- 7TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

Emancipation

ANARCHIST ASSOCIATION OF THE AMERICAS

ONLY BLUFFING

At 7pm on 29th April fifty cops raided the office of *Bluf!* (the Amsterdam squatters weekly paper), the first time this had happened. Several people were arrested and the whole of the 3,500 print run of the paper stolen. It had been due to appear that evening. The reason for the raid was that the issue of *Bluf!* contained several confidential documents produced in 1981 by the PVD, one of the Dutch secret police organisations.

At midnight that day sixty or so people assembled at the police station where the arrested were being held and stayed for half an hour making a huge racket to let those in the cells know that support was outside. The next day *Bluf!* was printed elsewhere and immediately sold out, their best ever sale! All those arrested were released. It's not known whether any of them have been charged.

The documents aren't particularly important and one theory is that they were out in *Bluf!*'s postbox so that their inevitable printing would give the police an excuse to raid *Bluf!* They are the BVD's quarterly overview from the 4th quarter of 1981 and show the BVD spying on among others the Dutch Communist Party, the Arab League and 'anti-democratic developments within the anti-nuclear movement'. It's still a nice coup for *Bluf!* When are we going to do the same over here?

For Your Information...

Emma Goldman:

We would like to borrow or copy photographs, postcards, news cuttings, memorabilia and other visual material about Emma Goldman in general and her stay in England in particular for a film about her life. Please contact as soon as possible: *Zimya A. Trend, 1106 Valencia, Apt B, San Francisco, California 94110, USA*

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NEW MIDLANDS DAM GROUP

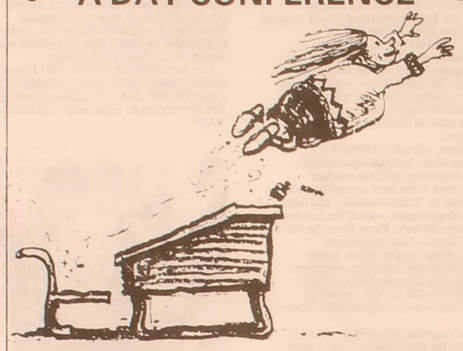
A number of DAM members met on Friday 12 June with a view to setting up a DAM group in the Kettering/Corby/Leicester area. We have had no feedback on this group but any interested DAM members or other class struggle anarchists are very welcome to join. Enquiries to: *DAM National Secretary, Box DAM, Cambridge Free Press, 25 Gwydir Street, Cambridge.*

Q & A on Anarchism
contd. from page 5

writers or artists have looked on the workers' movement, and sometimes anarchism, as a chance to project themselves to stardom and expected privilege. Even a few years ago a leading SWP writer was holding out the 'sustaining of intellectuals' as a major test of a revolutionary movement. The cult of the 'intellectual' is taken from Tsarist Russia where a University education was associated with liberalism. The anarchist movement for a long time suffered the associations of this parasitism (via the Liberal variation) as the 'failed mandarins' deserted the Communist Party. We refute that any writer, singer or artist worth their salt needs any privilege in an anarchist society or movement.

FREEDOM AND EDUCATION '87

• A DAY CONFERENCE •



SATURDAY, 3RD OCTOBER

COUNTESTHORPE COLLEGE
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FOR FURTHER DETAILS:
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BLACK CROSS STATEMENT

1. The Anarchist Black Cross was set up as an international anarchist network to provide physical, financial and moral support to anarchist and class war prisoners. This support should also imply an active collaboration in the wider resistance with which those prisoners are engaged.

2. The main body of any organised resistance lies with organised labour - not the reformist trade unions but a confederally organised industrial and community labour movement that is both revolutionary in its demands and united in its means. Those anarchists who ignore the role of organised labour in the revolutionary struggle are just toying with politics; being on the outside of that movement is elitism.

3. As class struggle anarchists we ourselves have to be organised if we are to effectively meet the organised repression of the state and avoid defeat. What is also needed is commitment.

4. Needless to say, organisation and mutual aid is meaningless unless it goes hand in hand with a commitment to direct resistance. We seek nothing less than social revolution - brought about by a social general strike and supported by local and regional insurrections - for the creation of a stateless and classless society.

5. To assist in this it is our belief that our work would be more effective if the Black Cross became a specific anarchist defence organisation, operating on a federal basis, in addition to our existing international prisoner support work.

6. As the Black Cross has, in addition, always maintained a close supportive relationship - primarily through prisoner solidarity work - to the International Workers Association (the anarcho-syndicalist international) it is our belief also that the Black Cross not only has a responsibility to help defend the activities of the different sections of the IWA but that our contacts, where possible, could well consider playing a full and active role, as IWA members, within those sections.

7. The better we can improve our resistance activity and our own coordination, as the Black Cross, at a local, regional and international level, and the more we can contribute to the defense and essential work of the organised anarchist labour movement, then the greater the possibility that we can achieve our objectives.

BLACK CROSS (LONDON)

NOTE: We invite all anarchists who agree with the above statement and who wish to support our work to contact us at our London address. Anyone who wishes to work within their IWA section as an IWA member should contact their local IWA group (or write to us and we will send on details of your nearest IWA group address).

121 Bookshop is hoping to hold a party commemorating Sacco and Vanzetti's execution on 23 August. People are trying to locate the film Sacco and Vanzetti *in video form for showing. Any offers of help would be appreciated. Enquiries to 121 Bookshop, 121 Railton Rd, London SE24. Phone 01-274 6655.*

No. 172

BLACK FLAG

30p

FOR ANARCHIST RESISTANCE

22-6-87

Workfare Vs. Direct Action

All four political parties tacitly admitted they backed Workfare during the run-up to the General Election. None would refer to it by name but all their respective policies clearly implied the adoption of Workfare as a 'solution' to unemployment.

Workfare is about working in order to receive unemployment or social security benefit. This is the third article in a series in *Black Flag* that considers these plans and the gearing of the national economy to the normalisation of low pay. How can these plans be sabotaged?

Workfare is supposed to get rid of unemployment by getting a significant portion of the population used to the idea that low pay is all that can be expected, and that alternative State 'insurance' benefit will not come unless it is worked for. It is a slave economy, or as we have described it previously, a Prison Economy.

Unemployment is your fault! (official)

The Low Pay Unit believes that Workfare is on the way, and that it will be introduced bit by bit alongside a programme that will attempt to change peoples' attitude to unemployment. The official message is: unemployment is self-induced, it can only be solved by the individual, not by the State. But the State and capitalist hierarchy control the national economy and most people's employment opportunities.

This means that two years of low paid meaningless work will be compulsory for youth, a new form of National 'Service'. Young people up to the age of 18 will not be entitled to any unemployment or social security benefit. Any offer of future benefits will be dependent on the acceptance of 'training' or 'work experience'. If this is refused, benefit will be cut off. All training schemes will be extended to two years and the loss of benefit will be applicable for the whole two year period.

Those aged 18 to 25 will be forced on to the Job Training Scheme and the same cut-off conditions will be used as part of the coercion to ensure the JTS schemes are fully taken up.

For those over 25 the equivalent will be the full-time Community Scheme. For this the benefit will be £15 per week extra, or around £45 for a 40 hour week. This, the State hopes, will be the new norm for low pay, against which all other full time pay will be measured. When the parties promised to reduce unemployment by a million in a year, they referred to the expansion of training schemes not to real work. Will these million people on the schemes in the next twelve months be unionised? Probably not. Will the unions help them to get real pay? Hardly likely.

To resist the Prison Economy, all those on the training schemes should organise round one joint campaign whether already unionised or not.

The campaign should not be on the lines of an 'unemployed workers union' but aim to unite those who are on the schemes and those whose wages are going to be pulled down by them, even among those who consider their jobs and pay safe. 'Workfare' and its implications must be studied extensively and it must be made clear that such a campaign would be run on mutual-aid lines—dismissal of a 'trainee' for industrial action to lead to action by other trainees.

The short-term aim must be the ending of the schemes or an increase in wages to a new national minimum on a par with 'normal pay'. There must be equality of job conditions as enjoyed by full time workers, and an integration into the general economy. The longer term objective would be to create a movement of industrial solidarity that would unite low-paid workers in different industries and different areas. The organisation best suited to organising such a campaign is the Direct Action Movement. The opportunity is there to be taken.

ONLY OBEYING ORDERS...



...IN CHILE



(The British) 'have a helicopter up every now and again with a searchlight flying over the estate. It's really annoying, like being in Chile or someplace like that.' Tom McLaughlin, Belfast-born lead singer of Light A Big Fire.

...IN N. IRELAND

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IN BRIEF

BOLTON ANARCHIST DAY

The third Bolton Anarchist Day was held on May 2nd. 150 people attended, some from as far away as London and Inverness. Ten workshops were held on subjects ranging from anarcho-feminism, South Africa and Unemployment through to Anarcho-Syndicalism and the Black Cross. Of particular interest was the meeting on Operaia Autonomia, the Italian autonomist movement of the 70s. The only sour note was the intervention by Bolton SWP who tried to hijack the discussion at three meetings for their own (predictable) purposes. Trots apart, the level of discussion was high. £80 was raised for Black Cross prisoners, and several video films were shown. The event owed much to help given by non-anarchist Socialist Club members.

STEADY, EDDY

Oh no! Veteran Nazi Eddy Morrison is at it again. Having dismally failed to establish 'national socialism' in Britain through his previous pathetic ventures (including the British National Party, the National Democratic Freedom Movement and the National Action Party) Eddy has hit upon the highly original idea of setting up another Nazi Party . The National Workers Party burst upon the political scene a few months ago and has been producing a tatty and crude anti-semitic, racist propaganda paper ever since—*The Truth* (sic). All predictable, capital punishment for 'traitors', rave reviews of 'Mein Kampf',anti-abortion, 'red scum' etc. The only mystery is how long the party will last. Judging from previous garbage from the Morrison stable, we predict four more months. Isn't it time Eddy was put out to graze?



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Direct Action

HOME NEWS

AT TRADERS GATE

The Trader dispute began in December last year when millionaire print boss Lionel Pickering dismissed ninety printworkers in an attempt to go non-union. Since the workforce at Heanor Gate, Derbyshire, were sacked, printing of the Trader titles has been done by other firms scatttered throughout the country.

Defiant printworkers involved in the Midlands Trader dispute have pledged to fight on. A chapel vote on May 15 backed a call to the national NGA committee demanding they keep the dispute 'official'.

Every few weeks the NGA review the position of the Trader dispute and as we go to press, printers await the latest news, fearing that the union officials who have done nothing to back the struggle for reinstatement will now try to kill off the dispute.

Already SOGAT officials have sold out their Trader members by delaying strike pay after twenty weeks. To speed up their attempts to starve their members off the picket line, one local SOGAT official set up job interviews for two sacked SOGAT women. 'My husband's got no job,' one of the women explained, 'And with my union cutting off strike pay, I'm left with no money to fight with. What can I do?

'They've forced me to take this job, but you can bet we'll be back on the picket lines on our days off. You can't get rid of us that easily!'

Supporters of the sacked printers also face attacks by union bureaucrats—the NGA rep. on Nottingham Trades Council actually opposed the donation of £100 to the sacked printers support group in the town! His reason? He's 'wary of autonomous groups outside the union's control.'

At May Day rallies throughout the region, the sacked were able to argue the case for solidarity. Money was raised and important contacts made. But at the Chesterfield rally, the Communist Party-controlled Trades Council blocked all attempts by the sacked printers to speak from the platform. Michael Meacher MP could speak at length but workers in struggle had to be silenced at all cost, least it upset the CP's 'Vote Labour' campaign.

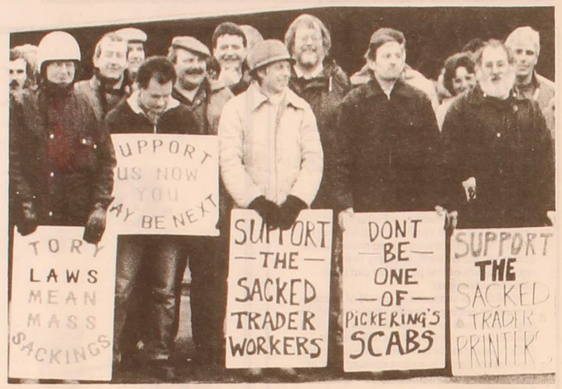
The contract with the scab firm Ad-Scene in Canterbury for the Trader titles is up for renewal in a few weeks. It is costing Trader boss Pickering a fortune. This could well be the time that finances force him to return to Heanor Gate and employ a scab workforce. If this happens, the printers are ready to build 'Warrington-style pickets'.

The union solicitor is pursuing 'unfair dismissal' claims through the courts,. Pickering could well be forced to pay compensation to the sacked printers should he lose the case. But it's unlikely he would be forced to give the jobs back. All the teeth has been drawn from this law. 'We don't want a thousand quid and a UB40,' explains one of the printers. 'That way Pickering gets to re-open a non-union factory in the Midlands, which—because of the crap wages he'll pay—will be that much cheaper and put every NGA and SOGAT printing job in the region at risks.

'Either we force Pickering to give us all back our jobs in a unionised factory at a decent wage level, or we make the bugger go bust.'

Messages of support and donations to: *114 Stonehill Road, Derby.* For a copy of the Nottingham Trader Printers support group paper *Dispute* send SAE and donation to: *Box 5, 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham.*

Rich Cross



Trader pickets state their case

BUST-UP AT KEETONS

The 38-strong workforce at Keetons & Sons engineering company at Darnall in Sheffield have been on strike since July 2nd last year. In November 1985 a staffing agreement between management and AEU representatives stated that employees would "where practical and possible, work combinations of machinery", that is, one worker running as many as four machines at any given time. The following safeguards were agreed: no redundancies; no lay-offs; no harassment or intimidation. With the ink hardly dry people were harassed, intimidated and told to work machines 25 yards apart which is neither practical nor safe. As if the agreement had never even existed management laid off workers and put others under extreme pressure to work the extra machines.

After a secret ballot giving a 2-1 majority to strike, the workforce was sacked within 5 minutes and given a written statement that they had dismissed themselves.

Although 12 scabs have been employed hundreds of people who applied for the jobs refused to cross the picket line when informed of the dispute. In an amusing incident pickets followed a lorry from Keetons on a journey of 10 miles. In a vain attempt to shake them off the driver actually drove 82 miles. Because of mounting pressure certain hauliers have stopped crossing the picket - the only ones going through now are:

S & H Motors, Tinsley Park
A & D Transport, Ecclesfield
T Roberts, Aston
and an unmarked green lorry, registration NWB 513K.

The latest news from the dispute is that the caravan and shelter at the main gate have been destroyed by fire, but luckily no-one was hurt. On 12th Feb the management came up with a new offer, if you can call it an offer that is. It included staff working any machinery, no shop stewards, no union recognition, a no-strike agreement, no annual pay review. Not surprisingly this was rejected unanimously.

Keetons strikers are determined not to be starved back to work. To this end they require donations of money and food. You can help by sending donations and messages of support to Keetons Strike Committee, AEU House, Furnival Gate, Sheffield. (phone 769041)



Keetons strikers at May Day march

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

NEWS FROM GREECE

Two comrades David and Apostolis Constantinou were released in mid-May after a brief imprison ment dating back to their arrest on April 17. when they were accused—with total lack of evidence—of stealing a car and illegal possession of a firearm. A trial date has yet to be set. One of the two belongs to the Dokimi Collective which publishes one of the more regular Anarchist papers now coming out of Greece.

The trial against thirteen comrades arrested in May 13 1986 during an anti-nuclear demo in Athens (see last *Flag)* has been postponed. More in due course.

On April 28 a police microphone was discovered behind a plug socket at the offices of the Anarchist paper *Dokimi.*



SHELL SHOCKED

Within the last six months some 35 Shell petrol stations have been attacked by militant anti-apartheid groups in Denmark. Windows have been smashed, petrol pumps cut, petrol destroyed with sugar and paint. This has achieved mass media attention, unlike the 'official' anti-apartheid movement's boycott campaign. While the ANC representatives in Denmark have denounced it, no less than Winnie Mandela has welcomed it—saying 'the people behind them are true friends of the black people's fight against the white apartheid fascists'. The militant groups didn't need her approval but it was funny seeing the official AA movement try to explain away her statement.

Shell Denmark and leaseholders have lost millions of Danish kroner and some dealers owning their own stations have switched to other companies. Shell Denmark is 'worried about the escalation of the struggle'.



International Solidarity



Members of the Free Workers Union (German section of the International Workers Association) picketing outside the Cologne branch of Laura Ashley.

Franco Alive And Well



Reinosa (Spain) is the town which was occupied military-style by the Guardia Civil after their 'honour' had been humiliated when villagers forced them to surrender in street fighting in March (see last two issues *Black Flag).* Worker Gonzalo Ruiz was poisoned by smoke canisters used by the forces of 'law and order' but his life was kept going artificially despite considerable pain because the police told the hospital 'they didn't want him dying on the First of May'.

Since his death further reports have come out about the other people attacked, harassed, arrested and tortured by police on the 16th April, when they cordoned off and invaded the town in retaliation for the events of March. Townspeople arrested on that day were made to run the gauntlet once inside the police station. Women of all ages were threatened with rape, were beaten, repeatedly tripped up and insulted.

Others were straddled against the wall and then hoisted and suspended by their thumbs. Taxi drivers had their vehicles smashed, and one was beaten up with rifle butts. One man they threatened to kill because he was an Anarchist—they tied his arms behind his back and beat him to try and make him confess to a phoney charge of carrying a knife (he didn't). One 40 year old housewife with two small children had smoke bombs thrown into her living room; she took her children on the roof to save them from suffocating; there they were shot at with rubber bullets.

One textile worker was beaten up in the street and then taken to the barracks where he was forced to lie on the floor where his head was pressed down hard by the sole of a boot for over an hour. Another man had his knee-caps fractured by the Guardia Civil wielding baseball bats. They also tried to break into the local hospital and carry sick people out into the street on the grounds that they were 'relatives of the others'—but the hospital staff fought back and the police were unable to lay hands on the patients.

These are just a few examples. The head of the Guardia Civil, a shifty little guy with a face like a frustrated goat, has said, 'Reports from Reinosa have been grossly exaggerated'. But his men are no longer to be found in Reinosa. *They are afraid to patrol the streets.*

A film has been made on the events of 1933 when this small Andalusian town launched its own anarchist insurrection. Government assault guards cornered thirty villagers in one house and burned them alive. Fourteen other villagers were taken out and shot at random. The director of the Guardia Civil aforementioned refused permission to use Guardia Civil uniforms during the making of the film, and placed the director Jose Lopez de Rio under surveillance, opening his mail and confiscating the first rushes of the film. He also tried to stop finance for the film—all socialist town councils have refused to put any money towards it although normally they are pleased as punch to support anything which reflects 'local history'...

Anarcho-Syndicalists Accused Of Terrorism

Members of the Public Transport Workers section of the Anarcho-Syndicalist Federation have been accused by the Murdoch press of being terrorists. This curious and unfounded allegation is a neat turn-round of the fact that *Sparks*, the paper of the Public Transport Workers Association, has been campaigning against the sabotage of Melbourne's public transport system.

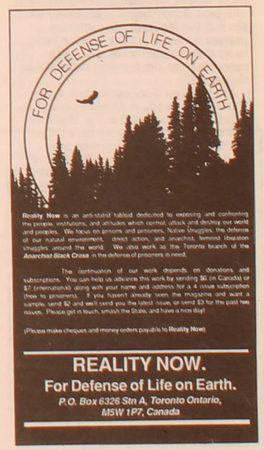
In typical Murdoch fashion, one of his papers, the *Sun* (relying on the distorted logic that anarchism equals terrorism) denounced the 'sabotage' planned by the ASF. *Sparks* replied by putting out a special 'Sabotage Supplement' where they 'named the outside agitators'—the real saboteurs of the public transport system, the management.

Sparks and its 'call for sabotage action' was even raised in a Parliamentary debate! The Hon, Reg Macey MP suggested that a *Sparks* advertisement incited tbe use of molotovs to wreck the new light rail system and he asked the Attorney General to investigate the matter. If this is the sort of reaction to a propaganda sheet, imagine the level when things hot up!

The Public Transport Workers Association's definition of the sabotage it advocates—work-to-rule, mass sickies, go-slows etc—has been clearly stated and contrasts sharply with the practice of the Met. Rail management cutting back of safety crews, the destruction of residential areas to make way for a more 'cost effective' new light rail system etc.

Rank-and-file transport workers scored a victory recently when they declared trains unsafe to work on unless employees were supplied with radio equipment (after a guard had been assaulted): the Met. management responded by shutting down the whole system, but a week later conceded defeat and agreed to phase in radio equipment for all night services.

Rank-and-file public transport workers elsewhere interested in making contact with the Public Transport Workers Association (ASF-IWA) should write to *PTWA c/o PO Box 1066, North Richmond, 3121 Melbourne (Australia)*



WITCH HUNT HERALDS NEW ORDER

An organisation has emerged that has already been implicated in a dirty tricks campaign in the 1987 British general election and is funded in part by the same source that funded the anti-CND dirty tricks organisation during the '83 general election.

That organisation has close links to the Tory Party as well as to international far-right interests. It is backed, ultimately, by the World Anti-Communist League (WACL). One of its current projects is the financing of 'contra' groups against the Front Line states in southern Africa. And its declared aim is to rid Britain of all forms of socialism (ie, including trade unionism and anarchism). In this they share a common objective with the openly declared aims of the Tory Party.

Western Goals UK is the British section of Western Goals International, the propaganda wing of the World Anti-Communist League. Western Goals UK is now working under cover of an organisation known as the World Freedom Project. A recent WFP advertisement appeared in several British national newspapers arguing for a no-sanctions policy for South Africa.

THE TORY CONNECTION

Several top Tories are backing Western Goals UK and the World Freedom Project. Not surprisingly one of these is Sir Patrick Wall (see 'Maggie's MI5 Tendency', last *Black Flag*), who is president of the British chapter of WACL as well as being a Tory MP and the founder of a new far-right lobby within the House of Commons. Other Tory MP's connected with Western Goals UK and the World Freedom Project include Neil Hamilton (named in the Panorama TV special, 'Maggie's Militant Tendency'), Nicholas Winterton (a leading campaigner for closer links with South Africa and for bringing back the death penalty), Stefan Terlezeki (who supports several Russian emigre organisations) and a relative unknown on the far-right scene, Bill Walker.

Western Goals UK was first set up in Britain by members of the Young Monday Club. One Young Monday Club member, Andrew Smith, was recently appointed as one of its directors. Western Goals UK received some press coverage recently when it was revealed that it was behind the release of the '101 Damned' far-left (sic) members within the Labour Party. The list of 101 names was used in electioneering speeches by Liberal leader David Steel and in a Tory party political broadcast.

The list contained the usual handful of Militant Tendency (aka Litigant/Tapeworm Tendency) supporters, but it has been generally conceded that the inclusion of the vast majority of those named was merely to bolster up numbers. Nevertheless it exploited to the full the McCarthyite campaign previously begun by the Labour Party in its zeal to expel what is more its entryists from the far-right rather than the far-left.

Another top Tory associated with Western Goals UK is Alfred Sherman, a one-time speech writer for Thatcher and a member of what we have called the 'MI5 Tendency'. Sherman now works for the Institute for Economic Affairs which provides advice to the Tory Party on economic policy. Sherman has addressed several Western Goals UK meetings.

The director general of Western Goals UK is Paul Masson, a former Monday Club member and a member of the Ealing branch of the Young Conservatives. Masson, like Terlezki, is prominent in the Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations, the emigre organisation that helped to found the WACL. The communications director of Western Goals UK is Stuart Northolt, the former president of the Oxford University branch of the Monday Club.

SOUTH AFRICAN LOBBY

It can be seen, therefore, that the most prominent people involved in organising Western Goals UK are all either connected to the Monday Club (originally set up as a pro-South Africa lobby) or with organisations directly linked to the World Anti–Communist League.

And the South Africa connection was vividly shown when it was recently revealed that Western Goals UK has three offshore funds specially held to finance RENAMO guerrillas in Mozambique. According to Masson an objective of Western Goals UK



Sir Patrick Wall MP, president of the British chapter of the World Anti-Communist League.

is to provide support to the South African 'contras', the rebel forces operating in all the Front Line states, so as to leave the mainstream funding activities of its parent organisation available for Central American operations (ie death squads).

Furthermore Masson has admitted that Western Goals UK's policy is to use its 'extensive' file on left-wingers and subversives (sic) to create a new climate of McCarthyism in the UK now that the far-right of the Tory Party has firmly established itself in power for the foreseeable future. In their propaganda work and monitoring of leftists, Western Goals UK complement the work of the Economic League and other similar bodies, who they could well be working with.

SECRET TRUST FUND

We can confirm that the World Freedom Project also receives funds from the US based Heritage Foundation. The funds arrive via the ubiquitous Brian Crozier, who has recently been appointed by Heritage as sole organiser of a special trust fund, called the International Freedom Fund Establishment (IFFE), a registered charity.

Up to now at least $140,000 has been received by Crozier from Heritage. (Crozier, incidentally, was an honourary speaker at the Contras conference held in London last December. Whether IFFE money is also being used to fund Contra activities is a matter for conjecture).

The matter comes full circle when it is remembered that Western Goals International was one of the main organisations named by Colonel Oliver North in a personal memo (reproduced in *Black Flag* issue 170) that showed how the Contras were being funded.

Crozier has acknowledged in a statement to Duncan Campbell that the IFFE is a 'clearing house' for the distribution of funds to political groups in the UK, including (as Heritage puts it) 'research institutes'.

DIRECT LOBBYING

One of the objectives of the Heritage Foundation is to work towards the setting up of a Conservative International to rival the left internationals. They hope to do this by firstly helping to strengthen Conservative governments, by providing those governments with ideological and other support. The so-called 'think tanks' are the front-line of that ideological support. One such 'think tank', and which receives more Heritage money than any other organisation in Britain, is the Institute for European Defence and Strategic Studies (see 'The Unofficial Enemy Within', *Black Flag* issue 170), which specialises in pro-NATO propaganda.

Over the last four years the IEDSS, together with organisations such as the Coalition for Peace Through Security (CPS), received around half a million dollars of direct aid from Heritage. The CPS is credited with having undertaken dirty tricks propaganda activities against the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in the run-up to the 1983 General Election (remember the hoodlums confronting CND chief, Bruce Kent, and the plane carrying a banner during the CND demonstrations?)

The IEDSS's executive director is Gerald Frost, no newcomer to the propaganda scene. Before taking on the IEDSS Frost was secretary of the Centre for Policy Studies, which was founded in 1974 by Margaret Thatcher (she was its president) and which has since helped to formulate early Thatcherite policy. More latterly John O'Sullivan, who was the editor of Heritage's 'Policy Review' from 1980-83, was the person responsible for writing key sections of the 1987 Tory Party manifesto, 'The Next Move Forward'.

Interestingly, the idea to set up the IEDSS came from Stephen Haseler, who helped to launch the Social Democratic Party and for a while was on the SDP's steering committee. Haseler was was also on the board of 'Policy Review' (was he a Thatcherite/pro-NATO mole helping to consolidate the split in the Labour Party?)

The second person prominent in setting up the IEDSS was Sir Peter Blaker, who took an interest at the time in the growing peace movement. Blaker was a junior minister of Defence in the first Thatcher government. He also helped to produce secret pro–nuclear weapons propaganda, which has since been identified as being integral to the dirty tricks campaign organised by Defence Minister Heseltine under the auspices of DS19 (a temporary psy-ops department within the MoD).

The third person involved in setting up the IEDSS was Ray Whitney, who later became a junior Health minister and who, as the former head of the Information Research Department, was central to the campaign against CND.

Since its inception the IEDSS has published a number of pro-NATO, anti-CND publications, one of the latest being written by Baroness Cox, a former director of the Centre for Policy Studies and now a spokesperson for the Tory Party in the House of Lords.

Clear it would not be difficult to come to the conclusion that the IEDSS is the unofficial Defence wing of the Tory Party; with the Centre for Policy Studies as its ideological hub.

ADVANCING PERSECUTION

The IEDSS and Western Goals UK are, of course, part of a much wider network of lobbying groups and propaganda and dirty tricks organisations. These organisations, as shown in previous issues of *Black Flag* are not only concerned with providing support for the Tory Party, they *are* the Tory Party, or at least a part of its central policy making establishment.

As for Western Goals UK it is clear from admissions they have made that for the immediate future at least their intention is to start nothing less than a witch hunt against the left in a bid to raise the political temperature and provide the conditions for even more strident Tory legislation.

In the past witch hunts have led to people being arrested on trumped up charges or even arrested for making political statements. They have also led to political organisations being proscribed and to people associating with those organisations being persecuted too.

In the USA it materialised in the form of McCarthyism. In Germany before the last war it led to the rise of Hitler and National Socialism; and after the war it led to the notorious Berufsverbote laws (no employment in public service jobs if you're left wing).

And it is no coincidence that with the emergence of these new monitoring organisations, the government plans to develop the National Identity system are well underway.

The warning signs are there. And these organisations have to be dealt with.

TOM INGLEWOOD.

N.B. Mr Peter Shipley, a former adviser to Mrs Thatcher's Policy unit, has also been identified as having a research role in the compilation of the '101 Damned' left wing (sic) names mentioned above. Shipley is a one-time member of the National Front (membership number 8699). In the past he also undertook research into left-wing groups, including Black Flag and the predecessors to the Direct Action Movement. This research was published and financed by The Guardian. Our own entry was a load of rubbish and was culled from a variety of sources, none from us direct. Many of the left groups gave their information freely believing Shipley was himself left-wing.

In more recent years Shipley has worked for Conservative Central Office where he was employed to do extensive research into left groups on behalf of the Tory Party and DS19 (see above). Shipley has written papers for Crozier's Institute for the Study of Conflict and has worked closely with the Economic League in putting together a dossier on the Militant Tendency (the basis of his research for the 101 names).

Now that the general election is over Shipley could well turn his attention to more traditional foes (ie the anti-parliamentary left) about whom he boasts a certain amount of familiarity thanks in part to the tendency who thrive on sensationalist media publicity.

ECONOMIC LEAGUE FEARFUL OF STRIKE SUPPORT GROUPS

Fear of Strike Support Groups, verging on paranoia, was the key feature of an address in 1986 by the Economic League president Sir Gerald Thorley.

Thorley stated that the League had 'provided regular evidence' of those giving support to the Miners Strike; he considered the Support Groups to have provided a 'base for the furthering of revolutionary ambitions' and noted that the same phenomenon was seen with the Print Dispute.

He then went on to sympathise with trade union leaders who had been the subject of attack for their treachery during the two disputes. He referred to their 'common sense' and went on to state that 'Events over the last year have brought management and unions closer together, in the realisation that they face a common threat.' 'Reasonable settlements' are sabotaged by 'external elements'.

The real solution to disputes, according to the League, is employee participation (profit sharing, the 'new realism', etc).

That the League takes a sympathetic line on the problems that the trade union hierarchies face only reflects the close relationship that the Economic League and the Labour right have had since the League's inception.

Like its stable-mate, Common Cause, the League was founded with the help of prominent trade unionists.

The Economic League, according to 'Lobster' magazine, was founded in the early 1920's by members of the Economic Study Club, which in turn grew out of the National Propaganda Committee (or simply National Propaganda). The National Propaganda Committee was set up by the British Commonwealth Union, an organisation that brought both left and right together in an early expression of British national socialism (ie fascism).

One researcher states that the British Commonwealth Union developed 'an underground network of secret subsidies to sympathetic politicians and labour leaders, infiltration of government departments, intrigue and industrial spying.

Such methods are the same used by the Economic League today.

On the right of the early Economic League were prominent individuals who were actively involved in a number of organisations that were fighting socialism;.many were also developing links with the far-right in Germany through the Anglo-German Friendship Society and with Italy through Friends of Italy.

Sir Harry Brittain, for example, who was on the Executive Committee of the Economic League, was a prominent member of both these organisations. Several Economic League vice-chairmen (eg WR Runciman, the Earl of Malmesbury and Lord McGowan) were each members of the Anglo-German Friendship Society. Other organisations that prominent Economic League members through the decades were linked to included British Fascists, the Anti-Socialist Union, the British Empire Union, the Society for Individual Freedom (in later years to be implicated in the 1970's smear campaign, initiated by MI5, against the Liberal Party), etc.

Some of these organisations took positions at the time that in retrospect, and by later statist standards, was nothing but unpatriotic (the 'enemy within'?). In their day they represented the overt face of the fascist capitalist establishment. Today, the Economic League and their ilk, represent the same tendency, but covertly and working closely with the state intelligence services.

But what about the involvement of the left in the Economic League? Well, once again if we start with the British Commonwealth Union, we can see where they come in. Namely corporatism.

One of the founders of the BCU, Dudley Docker, wanted a society where workers' organisations and management federations worked side by side in cooperation, with a hierarchy at the top representing both their interests and completing the triumvirate. Not dissimilar to the various schemes set up by the modern day Labour governments.

At the League's own admission they work with the labour movement to get information and this they have done since its founding and over the years. In 1937, for example, the Economic League's then director, John White, stated that 'on many occasions we have supported the Labour Party in its fight against communism, and most particularly in the trade unions... the cooperation between Sir Walter Citrine [General-Secretary of the Trades Union Congress] and myself on this question is far closer than most people imagine ...through an intermediary the League is giving active assistance to one very important trade union in fighting communists within its own ranks.'

In other words the League sides with the trade union hierarchies against rank and file activism.

This is still the case, of course, today. The trade union hierarchies want to keep their power base, and so League information on rank and file activists is useful to ensuring unions stay tame.

The League's penetration of the left extends to the Media also. According to 'Knee Deep In Shit' the Chief Executive of the *News On Sunday* (the national newspaper set up and funded by the trade unions) is also a vice-chairman of a company, Northern Foods, which subscribes to the League. One *News On Sunday* journalist, Malcolm Evans, (again, according to the same source) is a known Special Branch collaborator.

Today the League receives donations from most major companies and has close links to the Tory Party as well as to MI5. One member of the current Central Council of the League is Lord Cayzer, who regularly donates money to Tory Party funds and in the past has been actively associated with the setting up of a 'private army' that took part in the MI5-led destabilisation campaign in the '70's against opposition to the Tory right.

T.I.

N.B. For full details of the last available list of the Economic League's Central Council see the recent Knee Deep In Shit special, available from KDIS, c/o 31 Manor Row, Bradford 1. For further information on the early days of the Economic League see 'Lobster' no. 12.

Michael Noar, current Director General of the Economic League, recently shed a little light on his organisation's activities and aims in a radio phone-in programme (LBC London).

He claimed the League was founded in 1919 to end 'social divisions' in industry and to get away from the 'them and us' attitude between workers and management. Anyone who dared acknowledge class struggle or contradict the corporatist ideas of the League's 'one big happy family' was therefore a dangerous subversive. Noar claimed it had no links with any political party yet parallels with the Tory Party, not to mention further right, are obvious. Noar asserted today's 'trendy revolutionaries' regarded the Communist Party 'old-hat', and moved onto the Trotskyists and the Anarchists ('even more far out'). On the Animal Liberation Front, Noar conceded the majority 'passionately cared about animals' but were 'egged on by a fanatical minority of Anarchist infiltrators' to commit acts of violence. (Reminds me there used to be a radio comic whose punch line was 'what's it matter what you do as long as you tear 'em up'—which seems to be the Noar-type idea of an Anarchist).

Noar admitted the League (he wants to change the name) passed some 'but not all' information to the police—and 'they weren't unfriendly in return'. An admission (if needed) that the police are politically involved and act as a right-wing back-up.

Another Economic League HQ address has appeared in *Knee Deep in Shit*. This address (16 St Martins-le-Grand, London E.C.1) is their official registered address (front), but the real address is (as given in *Black Flag*), The Economic League 17 Wine Office Court, off Fleet Street, their operations HQ.



Director-General of the Economic League, Michael Noar

THE MURDER-LINK

Yet more evidence of collaboration between Spanish police and GAL (a right wing terrorist death squad) has come to light, confirming revelations in *Black Flag* (No.151).

The new allegations centre around statements made by several Portuguese and French mercenaries currently on trial in Lisbon accused of participating in two terrorist attacks against customers of the Batzoki bar in Bayonne and the Consolation bar in San Juan de Luz in February 1986. Since GAL was founded in 1983, some 35 militants belonging to the Basque nationalist armed organisation ETA have been murdered in both Southern France and Northern Spain—the victims of a 'dirty war' which is being organised and funded by elements within the Spanish and French security services.

Soon after the Consolation bar attack, however, French police arrested and questioned Paulo Jose Figueriredo Fontes who was found to be carrying a fake ID issued in Spain. Fontes has admitted meeting two Spanish police officers in Viana do Castelo (Portugal) along with three other mercenaries—all employed by Visegur, a private security firm. Fontes claims the police offered him a substantial sum of money provided they kidnapped a criminal living in France and hand him over to the police in Spain. Having agreed the deal, the cops then told him they weren't being hired to kidnap a criminal but to assassinate ETA suspects, and were promised two-and-a-half million pesetas (£12,500) each per murder. The same police later helped the mercenaries cross the border into France where the attacks took place, and gave them fake ID afterwards.



Jean Phillipe Labade



Jose Amedo Fouce

Fontes has named Jean Philippe Labade as the linkman between him and the police. Labade, an ex-cop, was himself convicted in June 1984 for the murder of Tomas Perez Revilla (ETA) but was conditionally released five months later. He fled to Spain where, he claims, he was 'looked after' by a member of the Guardia Civil (Spain's para-military security force).

Labade,also facing trial, denies involvement in the attacks but identifies Jose Amedo Fouce, a police inspector working in Bilbao, as one of the police involved in planning the attacks.

As reported in our last issue, Spain's security forces have come under attack following allegations of collaboration with Italian neo-Nazi Stefano delle Chiaie. For how long will Felipe Gonzalez, head of Spain's 'socialist' government, be able to distance himself from some of his more enthusiastic servants?

Q & A ON ANARCHISM

Q. *Would the artist have a privileged place in an anarchist society?*

A. Emphatically no, and this marks a distinction between the oft-peddled Liberal distortion of Anarchism and Anarchism itself. When great art flourished, in the Venetian Republic for instance, the sculptors and painters regarded themselves as craftspeople and were part of a pervading popular culture. They had no special privileged place, nor did they seek one. They did not foresee a future in which their work was put in museums, which they would have looked on as cultural graveyards; nor that a personality cult would have been made of individuals. In the Middle Ages craft was made into a 'mystery' to preserve trade secrets and keep up living standards. These guilds were simply pursuing union aims, not seeking star status for individuals.

The artist needs no special privilege, nothing beyond the chance to write or paint, and even in the capitalist society they will work at menial tasks or starve in a garret (at least they did until garrets became fabulously expensive studio flats). Acting is a notoriously precarious profession except for the stars but there is not the slightest reason why the 'stars' should be the privileged play set of the West (it grew out of the need to attract the public to make profits). We find it hard to believe that an anarchist society would give privileges to the glamour professions (journalism, writing, acting, painting and singing). Instead we think that amateurism, now a dirty word (doing it for the love of it rather than for money) would return to enhance all forms of art. Maybe society might like the parasitism of a few talented or eccentric individuals, too few to worry about.

It must be conceded that many minor

continued on page 8

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

IN BRIEF

DEPORTATION FROM ITALY

Patricia Melander spent three years working in Italy until 1985 when she was given 48 hours to leave the country (she's English) or risk imprisonment on charges of breach of the peace, involvement in demonstrations, showing solidarity with imprisoned comrades and chaining herself to a railing. A local Protestant church gave her refuge so she launched a five-day hunger strike, the publicity allowing her to stay in Italy. In October 1985 she went back to Comiso (Sicily) where she had been charged, and met Anarchists, anti-Mafia groups, students, journalists, trade unionists and leftists—many under Mafia death threats—Mafia interests extend into the US bases at Comiso where 112 missiles are housed.

After a brief stay she was re-arrested at a road block near the base and put into solitary, eventually being taken back in a cage-van to Comiso, where she was fined and banned from Italy for two years and expelled. The day after, at 4 a.m, she was taken to Catania and escorted to London via Rome.

Since then eighteen months have gone by. She's been back to Italy but can't stay more than a brief period without the risk of re-imprisonment. Meanwhile in Comiso, activists are being expelled regularly under a law dating back to the Mussolini years.

Messages of solidarity/requests for information to *P. Melander, 113 Eric Street. London E.3.*

ALF HOSTAGE NEEDS HELP

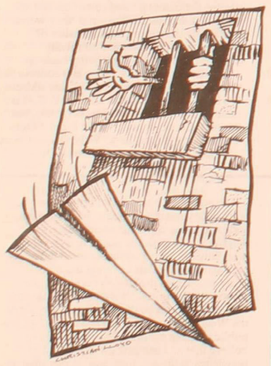
You will all know that Ronnie Lee has received a ten-year prison sentence after being convicted of conspiracy and incitement to cause criminal damage. On any sentence over five years, one can not apply for parole. He is a category A prisoner. Two warders guard him whenever he goes to the cage for exercise, he is in his cell for 23 hours per day, where there is an infra-red light on all night.

They take his clothes away at night, he does not get to see the weekly film, he is not allowed in the gym, but probably worst of all, he is kept in solitary confinement.

To make use of his time inside, Ronnie has decided to take up his studies again, so we have started a special fund to provide his books and other study aids for him.

If you and/or your group would like to contribute, please send all cheques and postal orders , made payable to *ALF Supporters Group, to Ronnie Lee Fund, BCM Box 1160, London WC1N3XX*

Source: ALF Supporters Group



PRISONER WANTS CORRESPONDENCE

S1796 Martin Foran, HM Prison, Long Lartin, South Littleton, Evesham, Worcs WR11 5T2 (GB) wants people to write to him.

UNKNOWN ANARCHISTS NO. 1



Pablo Serrano Serrano

From this issue The Anarchist Black Cross (London) intends to publish a series on Anarchist prisoners around the globe currently in need of support, and recommend our readers in turn to send messages of solidarity to these prisoners by simply writing to them directly at the address supplied below.

Number 1 in our series highlights the case of Pablo Serrano Serrano, a Spanish Anarchist from the region of Aragon. Serrano was arrested on 22 August 1984 and subsequently charged with assassinating company director Luis Ascaso on 30 July that year. In November 1985 Serrano was not only convicted of his killing, which he denies, but also of planting a bomb in a bar in Zaragoza frequented by US NATO personnel. He is currently serving a 30-year sentence.

Serrano first acquired what he calls a 'political consciousness' at the age of fifteen following employment as an electrician's apprentice working for the 'Electricidad Mazon' company (his first job). He was outraged at the way he was expected to act as an errand-boy as well as carry out his other duties as an apprectice and soon fell foul of this employer who eventually sacked him for rebelling. At seventeen he got another job, this time for the 'Electricidad Doma' company, but again lost the job after arguing with his employer over demands for a decent wage. By now finding it difficult to find work on the mainland Serrano 'got on his bike' and went to Mallorca, where he worked for a short time in a number of different hotels until he and a friend had a slight altercation with one hotel manager, culminating in a plate of lentils being thrown!

After a stint in the 'mili' (compulsory national-military service), he got more temporary work and in 1980 was briefly arrested for allegedly beating up a policeman. In June 1982 he was sacked for the sixth time after reporting the firm he was working for ('Electro-Aragon') to a health and safety officer. By now no-one would employ him so he got active in local unemployed/claimants groups for a while then - in his own words - 'went on to other forms of struggle' until his arrest in 1984. From 1977 until just before his arrest he belonged to the CNT (Spain's anarchist syndicalist union).

In court Serrano stated: 'I am being put on trial partly due to the fact that we have an anti-terrorist law that forces people like me to confess to actions they never committed, although I happen to be ideologically in agreement with them'.

Pablo Serrano Serrano can be contacted *c/o Penal de Sorio, Apdo. Correos 42071, Prison Provincial, Soria, Spain.*

JIM TRIMBLE -A RETRACTION

We have been manoeuvred into a heap of shit by well-meaning opponents of the death penalty, in the Jim Trimble case. Jim Trimble it seems was no way an anarchist, no way involved in a class struggle offence and no way wrongfully accused. We accepted the story which appeared in a previous *Black Flag* on misplaced trust and find it necessary to explain.

Our information came from the Toronto Anarchist Black Cross which had been deceived by the Australian Jim Trimble Support Group (not part of the Black Cross).

The Toronto ABC in good faith backed an international appeal. We in turn backed them without checking for ourselves. It is monstrous that someone of 23 should be lying in Death Row for six years; naturally our sympathies were engaged. Equally naturally, supporters of someone in that situation will seize at any straw for support and they tried to play the political card.

Now we learn from the Toronto ABC that they were deceived by their informant from the support group. She 'forgot' to mention that Jim admitted sexual assault. He and four friends picked up two women; one was bashed and raped, and another raped and murdered. The only thing that made Jim's case special was that he is the only one facing death though he did not commit the murder—the others have been given reduced sentences in return for testifying against him. He claims he was not guilty of actual rape, but admits forcing one of the girls to perform fellatio. We do not accept the distinction.

Obviously there should be a world wide campaign against the American torture system that allows someone to stay for years in a death cell before finally being killed. That is one matter which we shall always pursue.

Trimble's supporters may be swayed by this to try to say he is being condemned for political convictions he does not possess: in this they are mistaken since it will in no way help him. They assume successes in sometimes getting class struggle prisoners released mean a bias in favour of class war prisoners: in fact there is a prejudice against them in the judiciary.

While we fight against the prison system no way do we support a rapist. Forced sexual intercourse, like murder of this sort, can be eliminated from society and it is conditioned by a State-sick society; there are ways to fight against it which are gradually being learned and taught. But in the here and now it isn't in operation and we can't wait until effective action can be taken by the victims or put the onus on them: we have to say reluctantly that rapists and anti-social murderers must expect to take court-luck and not expect to be put on a level with people fighting or being victimised by the system though they are, indeed, churned out by it.

London Chapter ABC

THE ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

Anarchist Black Cross Prisoners Support Groups are organised in many countries to support specific – mainly anarchist – prisoners as well as resistance activity. Some of these groups are now organised in addition around their local prison offering support to prisoners and providing access for them to outside media and other resources.

In Brisbane Australia, the Black Cross has organised a group that produces a prisoners access programme on a local 'alternative' radio station. The group helped to publicise prisoners demands and grievances and campaigns for better conditions. For many of the prisoners, the support group is their only outside contact. Last December, there was a riot by prisoners at the Boggo Road prison in Brisbane. The support group immediately picketed the prison while the riot was going on, issued press statements on behalf of the prisoners, and put out a radio programme about why the riot had taken place (prisoners beaten up, overcrowding, etc).

When prisoners take direct action (such as roof top protests, hostage taking, strike action, hunger strikes and riots) their actions should not be allowed to become isolated. In major confrontational situations the ability of the authorities to quell disturbances could well be frustrated if police or riot cops were delayed by prisoners support groups outside the prison; such support might even lead to the liberation of prisoners an objective which ought to be the aim of all support groups.

In Britain, the Black Cross groups are organised around the country with groups in or near most cities, and working with, or as part of, the Direct Action Movement. In this situation, the conditions are even better for Black Cross Groups to support prisoners in local prisons and take on a role of a local prisoners support in addition to their Black Cross work.

These groups are even more essential with the increase in prisoner direct action (e.g. the many instances last year in Britain where prisoners attempted to destroy their prisoners), the presence of prison overcrowding, and the further criminalisation of political protest.

IS IT LOONEY TO OPPOSE WAR?

Leonid Gromov, a toolmaker in Ulyanovsk (USSR), was engaged in production of military cars, vans and trucks. From August 1984 he began to sabotage the equipment of vans designed for Afghanistan, setting them on fire, burning technical support documents, and setting fire to the technical bureau and the office of the Communist Party committee of the enterprise, it was alleged. On his arrest in 1985 he stated that he 'wanted to prevent the killing of civilians in Afghanistan'.

At one time to be charged with the 'deliberate destruction or sabotaging of State or public property' meant death but the mood nowadays in Russia is to play it down, and so Gromov was brought to the Institute of Forensic Psychiatry and found 'paranoid' and 'not responsible for his actions'. The authorities were regarded as highly responsible and not in the least paranoid in wanting to kill civilians in Afghanistan by this impartial medical body.

Gromov doesn't stand much chance of being supported by the 'free world' which is also responsible for its actions in regard to mass murder. Even organisations like Amnesty International won't be interested in him as he is not a 'distinguished intellectual' persecuted for his opinions and innocent of any 'paranoid' resistance action whatsoever; nor is he a dissident whose sole crime is wanting to worship as he pleases under precisely the same slave system as exists now in the hope of liberty in the hereafter; nor is he a philosophical pacifist who circulates his writings peacefully in samizdat and releases it to the world press. He is a worker; he tried direct action against the regime. That is enough to condemn him in any liberal's eyes no less than that of the rulers of Russia. So try protesting when Communists come a-wooing workers.

SEE ALSO BLACK CROSS STATEMENT, PAGE 8

COMMENT

COPY-CAT KILLERS

Regular readers of *Black Flag* will by now no doubt be aware of the seemingly strange direction the British National Front is going these days (see 164, 165 and 168 for examples). That this is in no small way connected to the arrival in Britain of several Italian refugees connected with the fascist organisation 'Terza Posizione' over six years ago is also no secret. However, what is less well known is the lengths to which the NF has gone in order to imitate their Italian fascist friends.

For example, virtually of of the NF's current obsessions, from its repeated rejection of the fascist tag, to its anti-nuclear stance and 'back to the land' mentality can be traced directly to 'Terza Posizione' and their leading ideological guru—one of the London based fascists—Roberto Fiore. Even the NF's new found 'idols'—from the obscure Corneliu Codreanu to the slightly better known Jose Antonio—have been ripped-off, fascist for fascist, from the Italians. Makes you wonder if the NF are still capable of coming up with just one original idea of their own?

But there's another side of 'Terza Posizitione' that the NF would prefer to keep quiet about. That several members of this group were heavily involved in the infamous 'Strategy of Tension'—in which state-funded fascists perpetrated terrorist outrages then blamed them on the left in the hope of destabilizing the Italian government and pave the way for a military/fascist dictatorship—there can be little doubt. Fiore himself, for example, has been implicated several times with the terrorist organisation NAR (Armed Revolutionary Nuclei—the organisation that claimed the notorious Bologna bombing in which 85 people were murdered in 1980.

And there's more... Fiore is also alleged to have been friendly with Amos Spiazzi, an army-colonel sympathetic to the fascists, especially in financial terms. This shatters the myth both TP and the NF like to cultivate that they are 'anti-establishment', and 'revolutionary' and begs the question—was 'Terza Posizione' set up specifically by elements within Italy's Security Forces? This has yet to be proven though it's interesting to note that the two other main 'revolutionary' fascist groups active at the same time—Ordine Nuovo and Avanguardia Nazionale—were both headed by State agents (Pino Rauti and Stefano delle Chiaie respectively).

So where does that leave the NF? Does it similary believe in the strategy of tension? Is it state funded? And is it capable of creating a British version of a terrorist organisation like NAR?



On the strategy of tension, the NF is less than clear. It certainly believes it's only hope of ever seizing power will come 'in times of unrest', yet it's difficult to imagine the present NF, reduced in numbers after a damaging split last year being capable, at least in the foreseeable future, of getting anywhere near any sort of power. Similarly its very doubtful that the NF would turn itself into an overt terrorist organaisation, although we note that serious attacks against immigrants have not decreased. In Italy it wasn't 'Terza Posizione' as such who carried out terrorist outrages, but members of that organisation wearing a NAR hat, and working alongside fascists from other organisations, like Ordine Nuovo. If British fascists ever did choose an overt terrorist path it would almost certainly involve an amalgam of fascists from different organisations, like the League of St. George or Column 88, both of who are ominously out-of-sight these days. We doubt too if the NF is state-funded, judging from the appalling quality of its propaganda these days. Nevertheless, as mentioned earlier, the NF's 'anti-establishment' line should be taken with a large grain of salt. If they are receiving financial assistance from the State they're certainly not spending it on improving the quality of their printed propaganda. What are they then spending it on?

So what has all this got to do with us? Well, another trick of the Italian fascists was to flirt with left-wing and Anarchist groups and in some cases to infiltrate them. Here again, the NF has written to Anarchist groups and others in the past suggesting some sort of dialogue, while in one of their publications they recently published an article on the role of the CNT and falangists during the Spanish Civil War, asking for anarchists to write in and comment at the end of the article. Anarchists should be aware of the threat of infiltration either by real fascists or the 'red fascists' on the left. To ignore the threat might lead us to tragic consequences. In Italy Guiseppe Pinelli (of the Anarchist Black Cross) was murdered by the police while under interrogation into a bombing perpetrated by fascists; another comrade, Pietro Valpreda, was jailed and harassed for several years. Fascism, whatever the variety, must be destroyed.

NB The NF referred to in this article described the 'offical' NF (for want of a better term) headed by Nick Griffin, Derek Holland, Pat Harrington etc. The 'unofficial' NF, headed by Joe Pearce, Ian Anderson, Steve Brady etc. has yet to take a 'third positionist' line.

WILL THE SILENT MAJORITY BE SILENCED

If a meglomaniac from Austria was able to achieve absolute power with the support of a social democratic electorate and the covert intervention of a military clique, then why not also an ambitious Tory from Grantham ?

It was the submission of a majority that sustained the rise of fascism in Germany. Today, in Britain, we do not have fascism but populism and a tendency towards the centralisation of power, which is an important element of absolutism. When anarchists argue that absolute power corrupts absolutely we refer not just to absolute power that is seized but also to absolute power that is given, whether through the ballot box or because of powerful backing.

Margaret Thatcher has stated and restated that it is her objective to 'rid Britain of all forms of socialism'. In her language socialism means not only state socialism and the miserable variant as practised by the Labour Party, but trade unionism, anarchism and indeed all forms of opposition to the Tory ascendency.

The existing curbs on trade unions and demonstrations indicates the direction in which government policy is heading. The '84/'85 Miners' strike and the dispute at Wapping were victories for populist Conservatism. The 'radical' wing of the Tory Party hopes to rid the country of all forms of open and effective dissent through the introduction of yet more repressive legislation and through the gradual establishment of a police state. But if their strategy fails and our own opposition grows then we must expect the possibility of some form of military or paramilitary intervention, or other draconian measures, to keep the lid on.

And the 'silent' majority will then object - too late - when their own silence is demanded (as opposed to encouraged) and when the fall-out of repression affects them in turn. It is this same 'silent' majority that keeps the state in power and that ultimately has the potential to destroy that power.

The trade unions are a large part of that 'silent' majority, but pose little threat at the moment because they have succumbed to the legislation and because of the way they are organised from above. A new opposition has to be reconstructed from both within and without the union movement. And it is that emerging opposition that has the task of creating the social revolution out of the ruins and the poverty - not merely as some distant intangible objective, but as something that is within our reach and is capable of being started now.

It is ironic that a war has been declared and yet we are not even ready for battle. Instead we have been forced on to the retreat, back to our strongholds, to our communities and to our mutual aid - our most precious resource. This, perhaps, was the Tories' biggest mistake.

From our communities and strongholds is where the social revolution will inevitably begin. From our bases in the inner cities, from the traditional industrial areas of the North, from the wastelands of the 'new towns', and from the areas too remote for state penetration. It is from here where the socialist and anarchist values of solidarity, mutual aid and caring survive and it is from here, our communities, that they will be preserved and nurtured in preparation for the coming battles ahead.

Our 'strongholds' are already, in effect, run by us, the people who live and work there. Some would even say that we are in fact just a few steps short of collectivisation - not just the local industries which we run, but the public services and the municipal resources as a whole. They are ours by right and we must begin to take them over, to collectivise the industries, to make houses and Health care available to all, and to declare free municipalities. Factory by factory, district by district, industry by industry, region by region.

In the areas where all hope has been dashed and where our future lies with our own self-management, this is the only and most practical solution.

And if there is violent intervention by the agents of the state - as undoubtedly there will - then the collectives and free municipalities will have to be defended by our own efforts and with solidarity from other communities and militias.

This is the way a social general strike could evolve; through the example of direct action, inspiring others to do likewise; by communities getting involved from the beginning in the collectivisation process, the running of local services, and the defence of those services and collectives; and by widening solidarity throughout industry and via simultaneous uprisings in different parts of the country.

It is the sort of strategy that was used in pre-Civil War Spain (with the regional general strikes combined with the cycle of local insurrections) and is still being used today (with the rebellion of the north and the uprising in Reinosa in support of strike action).

It could be **our** next move forward. **T.I.**

ANARCHY

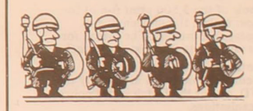
ELECTIONS AND REVOLUTION

The occasion of the General Election has given Anarchists all over the country the chance to present their ideas to a wider public. This chance is due to two developments: the first the situation in which millions of people find themselves in regard to homelessness, unemployment and other social disadvantages which have been caused by the high instance of poverty; the other the growth of the anarchist movement and its experiences gained during strikes, evictions and demonstrations against the police and State. The high level of poverty and the anarchist movement has formed an almost unbreakable bond.

No wonder the various trotskyist, stalinist and other State socialist sects which used to have some attraction for young proles now face a critical future because of the fall in recruits to flog their papers and manifestoes. These politicos who claim to represent the working class have in common the old illusion that socialism can be brought about by Parliament. Now they are blaming the anarchist movement opposed to all authority including the hypocrisy of representation for their failure.

Even the Socialist Party of Great Britain, a minor sect pursuing a minor variation of Marxism, is holding the Anarchists responsible for the loss of the half-dozen or so votes they obtain every five years, and their Brighton representative made an incoherent attack on 121 Bookshop holding it responsible for this tragedy. 'Vote-splitting', as it wouldn't challenge the custom, would be acceptable to them.

By not having participated in the electoral farce and by consciously abstaining from electioneering does not mean we are advocating a non-political stance against capitalism, property and the State. The working class does not have nor need a political party to represent it. As anarchists we will espouse and put forward our revolutionary ideas on developments taking place, above all the need for social revolution on an international scale. This will mean dismantling parliaments, congresses and the paraphernalia that keeps the State intact.



FOLKSY AND NOT AT ALL DANGEROUS

The London Daily News had trendy and vacuous journalist Jessica Berens doing a piss-taking folksy article about 'the anarchists' message' in the elections—if you recognise them as anarchists, you'd be as big a fool as she is. (POWER TO THE CIDER GROWERS (*LDN* June 9)

She went to the Freedom Bookshop and the 'anarchists' she met, she said, were neither 'cloaked revolutionaries' (do revolutionaries wear cloaks? When? Where?) nor 'Bakunin spouting Sex Pistols fans in leather jackets' (do Sex Pistols types 'spout Bakunin?') It seems your average anarchist (all apparently masculine) 'reads Colin Ward...drinks bitter and goes to meetings at the Mary Ward Centre...with other men who have beards and glasses and bicycles. And of course, he never votes.' Yes, we recognise the people, we don't recognise the anarchism.

MORE LIES, MORE LIBERALS

A pilot issue of a quasi-'Syndicalist Bulletin' came out in May. It was published by people in Hull who absconded with DAM funds and now aim to publicise the phoney CNT like Catholic Action-Sinews. They conned a comrade, M. H., into giving them money with which they financed the pilot issue as they said they were anti-vanguardist. Seeing the bulletin he wants his money back which is fair enough but unlikely from that lot (though they hardly need it as big money is floating around that scene as 'Mick Larkin' knows). Christian Pacifist Laurens Otter contributes a predictable distortion of history about the FAI taken from the usual Woodcockery sources.